

KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base Biloxi, Mississippi Volume 67, No. 6 Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2



Developing America's Airmen today ... for tomorrow

INSIDE

Commentary

Motivating Airmen, 2

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Top trainers, **4**Dark Knights prevail, **4**Scholarship deadline, **7**

News and Features

Award winners, **8**ABU policy, **10**Saving your back, **11**Canine castle, **16**Cookout today, **17**New phone numbers, **18**

Sports and Recreation

Slugfest III, 19

Sections



Dragons deployed
— 180



Warrior Day emphasizes wartime skills

Master Sgt. Jerome Ambion, A-76 office, performs the low crawl with his M-16 through the sand of the volleyball court in marina park Feb. 6. Story, more photos, Pages 14-15.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

Budget request

Air Force seeks \$6.2 billion increase

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In the president's fiscal 2008 budget, Air Force leaders are asking Congress for about \$110.7 billion.

The Air Force budget request, about \$6.2 billion more than it received in

FY07, is divided into three primary areas: people, readiness and modernization and recapitalization. About 5 percent of the total budget goes toward infrastructure, said Maj. Gen. Frank Faykes, Air Force military deputy to the assistant secretary for budget.

Taking care of Airmen is one of the top three priorities for Air Force leaders, and this year, nearly a third of the budget, about \$36 billion dollars, goes toward that goal. In fact, this year Air Force

Please see **Budget**, Page 9

This week in the Triangle

Air traffic control tower, 9 a.m. today, Cody Hall.

Air traffic control radar, 9 a.m. today, Cody Hall.

 $Financial\ management-comptroller, 9\ a.m.\ today,\ weather\ training\ complex.$

Information management, 10 a.m. today, Thomson Hall.

Command post, 10 a.m. Friday, Bryan Hall.

Radio communication, 10 a.m. Friday, Thomson Hall.

 $Computer\ networking\ cryptographic\ system,\ 10\ a.m.\ Friday,\ Bryan\ Hall.$

Weather forecaster, 10 a.m. Wednesday, weather training complex.

Personnel, 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, Wolfe Hall.



January honor flight

Student numbers

Total students — 3,451 Non-prior service — 2,047 Temporary duty — 1,251 Joint service — 102 Combat controllers — 25 Medical— 26 Non-prior service arrivals — 165 Guard, Reserve — 775 International — 28 Fiscal 2007 graduates — 8,145 Total since 1942 — 2,242,517

Nothing is more important ACTION LINE ... 377-4357 than motivating your Airmen

By Lt. Col. William Routt

95th Fighter Squadron commander

TYNDALL Air Force Base, Fla. — What motivates you? Equally important, how do you motivate someone else?

We have a tendency to come up with slogans or processes that attempt to make us better or more efficient, but I believe nothing is more important than getting someone to want to do more or, well ... do less with less.

Desire to motivate

Embrace change; it makes us more efficient. Computers, slide shows and spreadsheets make our job easier. They can help us streamline our processes. These are needed and they're beneficial, but the desire of the worker is more important.

Jack Welch, former chief executive officer of General Electric, talked about "differentiation" and his 20-70-10 categories of people. To paraphrase him, the top 20 are the show ponies, the middle 70 are the normal majority and the bottom 10 are the slugs.

"Differentiation is about managers looking at the middle 70, identifying people with the potential to move up and cultivating them," said Mr. Welch. "But everyone in the middle 70 needs to be motivated and made to feel as if they truly belong."

Providing feedback

Hope for advancement or a chance to enter the top 20 must be provided to the middle 70.

Performance feedback is habitually lacking for those who surround us. Often, even acknowledgement isn't there. As a leader or supervisor, do you provide feedback?

Obviously, the Air Force dictates it. Performance feedback worksheets are a great point of departure. But what about informally? For example, a "Hey, that was exactly what I was looking for" comment as you visit an Airman's workplace or pass him in the hall counts as informal feedback.

If people are never told, "Good job!" or given constructive criticism, expect them to avoid thinking creatively in the future.

Informal and constant feedback is more effective than the required twice a year sessions with your Airmen. Ask yourself if you've gone home after completing a project and wondered if that was what the boss was looking for. Have you wondered if you overstepped your bounds or stepped out of your lane with some idea you pressed with? Could there be someone who works for you wondering the same?

Recognition comes in a number of different ways. Medals and ribbons are presented. There's the quarterly or yearly awards program. There are nice letters and congratulation notes from bosses. All are truly great, but that isn't enough. How you communicate with your Airmen needs to extend beyond the monthly commander's call.

Recognize all performers

Indeed, retired Maj. Gen. Perry Smith put it well: "Leaders should recognize not just the top performers, but also the many others who are competently doing their jobs with good attitudes and a strong commitment to the institutional goals. Making continuous efforts during the morning, at noontime and before leaving in the evening to thank people is an important part of taking care of them."

This can't be insincere or done flippantly, without thought. Don't coddle or thank someone for showing up to work on time. You can and should, however, recognize their completing a project or job on time.

In our profession, we serve our country. That, in and of itself, is worthy of thanks. It's right and should be acknowledged from time to time, but it must be done with honest sincerity.

Pat someone on the back

Next time you look in the mirror, ask yourself, "How have I done with motivating my Airmen?" Smiling when you enter and leave the workplace is nice. Better yet, get up from behind your desk, walk the halls and pat someone on the back.

Recognize true service to one's unit and its mission and goals. Acknowledge someone who put forth effort even if it fell short of how you may have wanted it. Just by talking to that person you're helping them for future endeavors and motivating further efforts.

Don't stop the formal stuff — that's just as critical. But do put forth effort to be there informally for your Airmen.

Drinking and driving = deadly duo.

By Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso

81st Training Wing commander

First, try to work concerns through the proper chain of command. When you've exhausted this recourse, turn to the commander's action line for assistance.

We welcome any suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool. You may call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81 TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81 TRW Commander's Action Line (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base). For a personal response, include your name, address and phone number.

Items of general interest may appear in this column.

For your convenience, below is a list of key customer service phone numbers at Keesler:

Base locator — 377-2890 **Base operator** — 377-1110 Base taxi (official use) — 377-Career assistance adviser — Central medical appointments 1-800-700-8603 Child development center — 377-2211 Civil engineering — 377-5561 Civilian personnel — 377-2268 Military personnel flight 377-2276 Keesler Federal Credit Union **—** 385-5500 Emergencies — 911 Family campground — 594-Airmen and family readiness center — 377-2179 Finance — 377-4212 81st Communications Squadron help desk — 377-0066 **Housing** — 377-9741 Identification cards — 377 Inspector general — 377-3010 Visitor center — 377-2595

Legal assistance — 377-3510

Library — 377-2181 **Lodging** (reservations) — 377-Medical center information — 377-6550 Military equal opoortunity — 377-2759 **Military pay** — 377-7272 Pass and registration — 377-Pharmacy (refill call-in) -377-6360 Satellite pharmacy — 377-9791 Public affairs — 377-2783 **Red Cross** — 377-3030 Sexual assault prevention and **res-ponse team** — 377-8635 Law enforcement desk — 377-Shoppette, Class Six — 432-**Telephone trouble** — 377-2130 Traffic management (out**bound**) — 377-2446 Traffic management (inbound)

- 377-7813

Youth center — 377-4116



KEESLER NEWS

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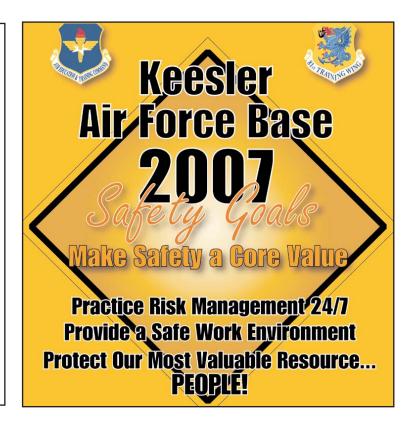
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If you've had too much to drink, call Airmen Against Drunk Driving, 377-7283,

10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Thursdays before down Fridays, working Fridays and Saturdays.







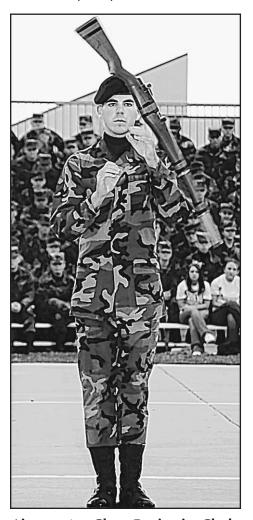
To start, stop, increase or decrease Keesler News delivery, or for display racks, facility managers call 377-4130.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Dark Knights duel to drill down win



Photos by Kemberly Groue Staff Sgt. Deanna Attaway, a military training leader in the 81st Training Support Squadron, was honored as reviewing officer at the season's first drill down. Sergeant Attaway is leaving the Air Force with nearly 12 years of service.



Airman 1st Class Benjamin Clark, 335th TRS, twirls his rifle during the freestyle drill competition.

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The 338th Training Squadron Dark Knights battled to the top spot in Friday's 81st Training Group drill down season opener.

The Dark Knights, fifth out of six teams in last year's standings, took overall honors with 19 points, first place in freestyle drill, second in regulation drill and fourth in open ranks.

The Gators from the 334th TRS were hot on their trail with 18 points for first place in regulation drill, third in open ranks and fifth in freestyle drill.

The 332nd TRS Mad Dogs claimed third place overall with 17 points, finishing in second place in open ranks and third in regulation and freestyle drill.

Last season's champions, the 336th TRS Red Wolves, came in fourth with 12 points, taking second place in freestyle drill, fourth in regulation drill and sixth in open ranks.

The Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit team took first place in open ranks, but came in fourth in freestyle drill and last place in regulation drill to earn 11 points and fifth place overall.

The 335th TRS Bulls finished in last place with seven points, placing fifth in open ranks and regulation drill and sixth in freestyle drill.

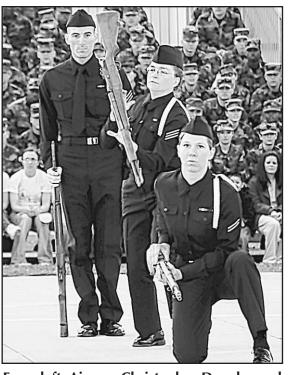
The Dark Knights are led by Airman 1st Class Brian Lapiska, drill master. Team members are Airmen Basic Robert De La Cruz, Steven Gladney, David Leasiolagi, Travis Morrison, Hussam Mubarak, Julio Rosa, Corderius Shepherd, Ryan Thomas, Shane Wilson and Xiong Neng and Airmen 1st Class Ladarious Malone and Uriah Sypolt.

Susan Hunt, executive director of the Biloxi Bay Chamber of Commerce, was an honorary commander at the drill down.

The next competition is 8 a.m. April 20 on the parade field in the Triangle.



Airman Basic David Leasiolagi, left, and Airman 1st Class Ladarious Malone perform during the Dark Knights' freestyle drill.



From left, Airmen Christopher Douglas and Pauline Loy and Airman Apprentice Ashley McGlone run through CNATTU's freestyle routine.

Trainers select top performers

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

The 335th Training Squadron claimed 10 of the 81st Training Group's annual awards during the annual awards banquet Feb. 8.

Master Sgt. Daniel Ransom won his third consecutive award as senior military training leader for 2006. Sergeant Ransom won his second award as an MTL in the 335th TRS and previously served in the 81st Training Support Squadron.

Winners who compete for 81st Training Wing annual honors March 2 include:

Airman — Senior Airman Nathan Olsen, 81st TRSS.

Noncommissioned officer — Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Smith, 333rd TRS.

Senior NCO — Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas Slater, 81st TRSS.

Company grade officer — Capt Max Lemons, 335th TRS. Field grade officer — Maj. Terri Raines, 338th TRS.

First sergeant — Master Sgt. Steven Wise, 335th TRS.

Entry-level civilian — Amy Dye, 335th TRS.

Intermediate-level civilian —

James Fuller, 335th TRS.
Senior-level civilian —

Leonard Caruso, 335th TRS. In addition to Sergeant Ransom, other winners in technical categories are:

Airman instructor — Senior Airman Jennifer Bosch, 332nd

NCO instructor — Tech. Sgt. Patrick McKimmie, 338th TRS.

Senior NCO instructor — Master Sgt. Debra Wright, 335th

Officer instructor — Capt. Sean Ellars, 333rd TRS.

Civilian instructor — Paul Harder, 335th TRS.

Flight commander — Capt. Barry Hunte, 335th TRS.

Junior MTL — Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Browning, 335th TRS.

Support civilian — Stacy Radford, 336th TRS. Support NCO — Staff Sgt.

Sharon Cleveland, 336th TRS. **Support officer** — Capt. Scott Lamont, 81st TRG.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Education survey

An educational needs assessment survey is being conducted online this month.

Military and civilian employees, retirees and their family members can access the 10-question survey at https://afvec.langley.af.mil/needs/.

CCAF graduation

Feb. 22 is the deadline to apply for the Community College of the Air Force spring 2007 graduating class.

For more information, visit or call the education office, Room 212, old Cody Hall, 377-2323.

William Carey signup

William Carey University is accepting registrations and applications for the spring

term, which begins Monday.

Continuing students simply register, while new students and those being readmitted are required to apply.

Discounted tuition rates are available to active-duty military, dependants, retirees and Defense Department civilians.

For more information, visit Room 208 in old Cody Hall or call 377-0090.

MGCCC signup

Online spring term pre-registration is available for currently enrolled students at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College-Keesler.

Registration by appointment for active-duty begins Feb. 22 in Room 214, old Cody Hall. For appointments, call 377-2287.

Spring term begins March 5.

Senior leader course

The non-resident Air War College senior leader course is open to active-duty, National Guard and Reserve members selected for lieutenant colonel and above of any component of the armed forces and Defense Department general schedule 13 and above civilian employees.

The distance learning program may be completed on your own or with a group seminar.

To enroll, go to http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awchome.htm

For more information or to set up a seminar group, call Joyce James, 377-7159.

Troops to Teachers

For information on Mississippi Troops to Teachers, call 1-800-MISS-TEACH.

DeCA scholarship deadline near

Defense Commissary Agency

Wednesday is the deadline to apply for the Defense Commissary Agency's Scholarships for Military Children program.

The scholarships are available to unmarried children under the age of 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired members. Eligibility is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database.

An applicant must be planning to attend an accredited college or university full time in the fall term of 2007, or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Scholarship applications are available at 263 commissaries worldwide, or can be downloaded through links at http://www.commissaries.com, http://www.militaryscholar.org or http://www.dodea.edu.

Along with their application, applicants must include an essay on "how and why" they would change an historical event.

At least one \$1,500 scholarship is awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Mission support team wins 8 command-level awards

By 2nd Lt. Nick Plante

Keesler News staff

The 81st Mission Support Squadron won five unit and three individual Air Education and Training Command awards for 2006.

The 81st MSS won the outstanding mission support squadron award for its actions after Hurricane Katrina.

The squadron demonstrated mission accomplishment, initiative and innovation by speeding processing times and bringing back educational and other services to the base.

The 81st MSS has six flights: airman professional military education, civilian personnel, education services, military personnel and airman and family readiness support.

The squadron was responsible for quality of life enhancements and charitable aid. It processed \$2.1 million in joint service emergency financial aid in six weeks after Katrina.

The education services flight captured the AETC award for excellence in educational programs. The flight overcame Katrina's challenges and was able to increase tuition assistance requests for military and civilians. The office saved the Air Force about \$249,000 in tuition assistance funds by administering college level exams.

More than \$99,000 was saved by convincing colleges not to charge for classes dropped by Keesler students due to Katrina.

The military personnel flight was awarded the outstanding achievement award by showing what flexibility means. Throughout Hurricane Katrina, the flight overcame challenges and produced results. The team was able to relocate to a condemned building and be operational within 48 hours after



Ms. Green

the storm and processed a year's worth of assignments in two months.

The airman and family readiness center was named the outstanding center in AETC. The center spent \$5,000 to certify 13 military spouses as nursing assistants. It led the creation of a 40-seat multimedia classroom for base use. The center provided 65,544 volunteer hours equal to \$1.8 million in community outreach.

The manpower office was recognized as manpower and organization flight of the year. The flight validated fiscal 2007 technical training pricing of 243 courses for 31,704 students. The flight saved the Air Force \$60,000 by converting the airman and family readiness flight chief to a civilian position.

Becky Green, education and training manager, took honors for best education and training manager in the senior civilian category partly due to her leadership and innovation after Katrina.

Ms. Green restored the education program in a little over two months after the storm displaced the facilities. Her persistance was directly reflected in the increase of



Sergeant Tennant

regular, civilian and instructor education enrollments.

Staff Sgt. Susan Tennant, an Airmen Leadership School instructor, earned AETC's enlisted professional military education achievement award for an ALS instructor.

Sergeant Tennant was recognized for mission performance, process improvements and professional development and community involvement. She served as deputy flight chief for more than three months during a low manning period. During that time, she directed two graduations for 41 students. Sergeant Tennant saved more than \$4,000 per quarter by transforming hard-copy study guides to portable compact disks.

Senior Airman Jacquelyne Fields, former 81st MSS customer service representative, was named outstanding personnel manager of the year in the personnel specialist category. Airman Fields' was cited for her support of wartime function, innovation and unit improvements.

She issued over 25,309 identification cards with a 99 percent satisfaction rate. Airman Fields coordinated the issuance of 400 ID cards to foreign students and National Guardsmen.

In the News

Mardi Gras outing for families

Families of Keesler's deployed members are treated to a special Mardi Gras celebration Tuesday.

The event includes a picnic lunch on the Biloxi Town Green before the Gulf Coast Carnival Association parade at 1 p.m. Reserved seating to view the parade is provided.

Families meet in the former commissary parking lot for 10:30 a.m. departure by bus and return later that afternoon.

For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Ernesto Alvendia, 377-2593 or 2179.

AFAF drive kicks off March 1

Keesler's Air Force Assistance Fund campaign begins March 1.

A kickoff breakfast is 7:30 a.m. March 2 at Vandenberg Community Center, according to Capt. Max Lemons, installation project officer.

Last year, Keesler raised \$121,670, 197 percent of its goal of \$61,711.

Annual awards banquet March 2

The 81st Training Wing's annual awards banquet is 6 p.m. March 2 in the 403rd Wing ISO hangar, Building 4247.

Two retired chief master sergeants of the Air Force, Paul Airey and Sam Parish, are guest speakers.

Feb. 23 is the deadline to purchase \$20 tickets from squadron representatives. Attire is mess dress or semiformal for military and formal or semiformal for civilians.

Hurricane Hunters fly into storm

403rd Wing Public Affairs

Monday, the 403rd Wing Hurricane Hunters flew into an impending winter storm expected to dump snow on the northeast United States and eastern seaboard this week.

The Hurricane Hunters flies winter storms in support of the National Weather Service, December through April.

Cell phone restrictions for drivers

It's a primary offense to use a cell phone while driving on base without a hands-free device.

Violators can be stopped and ticketed for this offense by the 81st Security Forces Squadron.

Early Keesler News deadline

The submission deadline for the Feb. 22 issue of the Keesler News is noon today, four days earlier than usual, due to the Presidents Day federal holiday Monday and the Mardi Gras regional holiday Tuesday, which is observed by Gulf Publishing Co., contract publisher of the base newspaper.

The newspaper office is closed Monday in observance of the Presidents Day holiday.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are the Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park (except during daylight hours or official events) in Biloxi; Carver Village, Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway in Pascagoula, and Toni's Lounge in Moss Point.

Budget,

from Page 1

leaders have asked for about \$1.3 billion dollars more than the service received last year to fund personnel costs.

"We have a 3 percent pay raise for military and civilian Airmen next year, and as you know, we have 670,000 Airmen in our Air Force — officer, enlisted and civilian Airmen," he said. "Everybody will get a 3 percent pay raise. Also, basic allowance for housing goes up about 4 percent."

Winning the war on terrorism is certainly another priority for Air Force leaders. This year, they're asking Congress for about \$30.6 billion dollars in readiness funds to help the service prepare Airmen to fight the war on terrorism. That request is about \$3.2 billion more than the service received the year prior.

"Readiness is key to fighting and winning the (war on terrorism) today," General Faykes said. "We look at the readiness, the operations and maintenance account, as that direct funding that allows us to prepare, to train, and then to deploy to fight the global war on terror."

The Air Force readiness accounts are meant to pay for things like funding flying operations at bases, security forces squadrons, operating vehicle fleets, and communications systems. This is the money that allows day-to-day operations and training to go on at Air Force bases around the world.

"That readiness funding that operates and maintains our basic infrastructure at our home bases is very critical to the success of the Air Force in providing air dominance to the combatant commanders," General Faykes said.

Modernization is also a key priority of the Air Force, and it's reflected in the service's \$38.9 billion dollar modernization and recapitalization budget request. This request is about \$2.3 billion more than the service received in FY07. The money funds the Air Force's efforts to buy new, more modern aircraft.

"This is where we're going to bring on additional aircraft

such as the F-22 Raptor, the F-35 Lightning II and the new combat search and rescue helicopter," General Faykes said, "and our number one priority in acquisition, to begin recapitalizing our tanker fleet."

The Air Force's tanker fleet, about 500 KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft, averages about 45 years old. On Jan. 30, Air Force officials released a request for proposal for the tanker replacement. The RFP is the official invitation to manufacturers to begin making offers to build a replacement for the aging "Eisenhower-era" fleet of KC-135s.

In the FY08 budget, Air Force officials project they'll spend about \$18.4 billion on research, development, testing and evaluation. They'll also spend about \$20.5 billion dollars on procuring new aircraft, missiles, equipment and ammunition.

Most areas of the Air Force's FY08 budget request show increases over the FY07 outlay. But this year, officials are asking for less money for infrastructure than what was received in FY07. Last year, the Air Force received \$5.8 billion dollars. This year officials are asking for \$5.2 billion. That money is used for military construction, facility maintenance, implementing directives under the Base Realignment and Closure act, and military housing.

"One area where we have a decline is in the military construction program, due to the significant pressures on our budget in FY08," General Faykes said. "We've reduced our military construction program by about \$300 million, but we still are able to build (some) new military construction projects."

The general said Air Force officials will build some new dormitories, a new child development center and a new fitness center in FY08. He said there are new fire training facilities in the plan as well.

General Faykes also said Air Force officials continue to privatize Air Force housing, and the service would be entirely out of "inadequate" housing in the United States by FY08, and in the entire Air Force by FY09.

"We're privatizing housing across the Air Force," the gen-

eral said. "The Air Force has about 88,000 housing units on its bases. That's the equivalent of 1.5 times the number of rooms that the Doubletree Hotel chain has, so it's a big deal for us to ensure that every Airman, whether you're working in the most northern tier base or one of the most southern tier bases or if you're working at a base overseas where you may be assigned, lives in adequate housing."

Some "significant pressures" on the budget include increases in fuel and personnel costs, General Faykes said.

"Our personnel costs have increased about 50 percent in the last 10 years while at the same time our end strength is coming down 8 percent," he said. "So the cost of our people in terms of pay, health care and those types of entitlements have gone up fairly significantly for the Air Force."

Air Force leaders, like the rest of Americans, also must contend with the rising cost of petroleum.

"Just as you would see in your own car with gas prices, the Air Force is seeing a significant cost of fuel increases of about 9 percent," he said. "For the Air Force, that's significant because we are the biggest consumer of aviation fuel within the Department of Defense. So for every \$10 increase in the price of oil, that costs the Air Force \$600 million."

In response to the increase in fuel prices, Air Force officials have budgeted some \$35 million to research alternative fuels.

"We are looking at alternative fuels across the future years defense plan of about \$35 million," General Faykes said. "We're starting with an effort first to certify our engines. We have successfully flown the B-52 Stratofortress with all eight engines on alternative fuels. In FY08, we will continue to certify all of our engines to fly on alternative fuels and then significantly begin investing in purchasing those fuels."

The general also said the Air Force has been a good steward of energy conservation for many years. The Air Force is the largest purchaser of "green energy" in the government.

Personnel Notes

Editor's note: This column is a service of the Keesler News. Contributors include the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and the 81st Mission Support Squadron's military and civilian personnel flights.

Travel health information

81st Medical Group

The travel medicine clinic at Keesler Medical Center, closed since Hurricane Katrina, is open again.

People planning vacations or permanent change-of-station moves outside the U.S. are encouraged to visit the clinic at least one month before departure.

The clinic staff provides the most current travel health information and determines the immunizations and prophylactic medications required based on destinations, planned activities, length of trips, health history, travel conditions and risks.

Walk-in hours are 8-10 a.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Bring immunization records.

Force shaping preparations

In preparation for the next officer force shaping board this spring, officers are encouraged to check their education levels in the virtual military personnel flight.

To correct errors, e-mail Air Force Institute of Technology's Academic Coding Branch, afit.coding@afit.edu, or send an official transcript from the college or university to AFIT Academic Coding Branch, 2950 Hobson Way, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-7765.

One-stop pay, personnel service

One-stop customer service for pay and personnel information is available all day, every day by calling toll-free 1-800-616-3775 or going online to http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cst/.

Long-term care insurance

For information on the long-term care insurance program and how to enroll, go online to http://www.ltcfeds.com or call 1-800-582-3337 or TDD 1-800-843-3557, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

E-mailing deployed troops

Stars and Stripes features "Messages of Support" for deployed service members from family and friends free of charge.

E-mail no more than 60 words to messages@estripes.com.

Updating LeaveWeb

On the first duty day upon returning from leave, military members are required to update LeaveWeb.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Jay McKenzie, 81st Mission Support Squadron superintendent of customer service, 377-5455.

Data theft protection resources

Air Force Print News

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — For information on data theft protection resources and how to protect against identity theft, visit First Gov, the federal government's official Web portal.

Mailing care packages

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service and Military Postal Service Agency process mail for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For more information, call 1-800-275-8777 or visit http://www.usps.com.

New airman battle uniform Policy addresses care, wear, accessories

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials at the Pentagon released the wear policy for the new airman battle uniform Feb. 7.

The policy comes in time to help many of the Airmen deploying to the area of responsibility in May, as these Airmen are among the first to get the ABU.

Further ABU distribution plans are based on production capability.

The new policy addresses uniform care, uniform wear, uniform accessories, and use of tactical items that don't match the ABU's color pattern.

From the beginning of the utility uniform redesign process, Air Force leaders have said they hoped to make it easier for Airmen to take care of their uniforms. The uniform care instructions in the new policy reflect the emphasis on ease of care. Generally, the policy indicates the uniform should be wash and wear.

"Wash in warm water ... tumble dry, permanent press cycle, remove immediately from dryer and fold flat or place on rustproof hanger," the instruction recommends. It also says the uniform could be air dried on a hanger.

According to the new policy, the ABU is not to be starched or "hot pressed" in a commercial laundry.

Airmen wear "sand colored" T-shirts under their ABU coat, according to the policy. The T-shirts may be v-neck, crew neck or "athletic style." Additionally, Airmen may wear self-purchased T-shirts made of material other than what's issued. Specifically, "moisture wicking fabrics" and "cotton/poly blends" are authorized as long as they're sand colored and the manufacturer's logo isn't visible.

The Air Force has chosen to use the Army universal camouflage pattern for tactical items. The policy authorizes AOR wear or use of tactical items and field items only in the Army universal camouflage pattern or the desert camouflage uniform pattern. Tactical items include body armor, modular lightweight load-carrying equipment, canteen covers, helmet covers, etc.

Tan combat boots are authorized with the ABU until the "foliage green" boots become available. The phase-out date for the tan boot and the mandatory wear date for the green boot haven't been set.

The mandatory wear date for the ABU — the date when all Airmen should be wearing the uniform — is Oct. 1, 2011.

Saving your back by lifting correctly

81st Medical Group

Most backaches come from strained muscles in the lower back. Other causes include slipped or herniated discs, arthritis, osteoporosis and urinary tract infections.

The goals of treatment are to treat the cause of the backache, relieve the pain, promote healing and avoid reinjury.

Improper lifting causes many backaches. Here are some lifting tips to help you avoid back strain:

Wear good shoes with low heels, not sandals or high heels.

Stand close to the object you want to lift.

Plant your feet squarely, shoulder width apart.

Bend at the knees, not at the waist. Keep your knees bent as you lift.

Pull in your stomach and rear end. Keep your back as straight as you can.

Hold the object close to your body.

Lift slowly, letting your legs carry the weight.

Get help or use a dolly to move something that's too big or very heavy.

Don't lift if your back already hurts, or if you have a history of back trouble.



Don't lift heavy things over your head.

Don't arch your back when you lift or carry.

Don't lift too fast or with a jerk.

Don't twist your back when you're holding something — turn your whole body from head to toe.

Don't lift something heavy with one hand and something light with the other — balance the load.

Don't try to lift one thing while you hold something else. For example, don't try to pick up a child while you're holding a grocery bag. Put the bag down, or lift the bag and the child at the same time.



Town hall meeting highlights construction of 1,067 new homes

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

New, improved military family housing is on the horizon for Keesler, according to an overview given at a town hall meeting Feb. 6 in Welch Auditorium.

Mobilization is under way through March to prepare for the largest military housing construction project in Air Force history — as many as 1,067 units at a cost of \$287.8 million.

The project begins with a March 30 groundbreaking ceremony in Thrower Park, where 208 units are being built for junior enlisted members. The first home is scheduled for delivery in December.

In June, building of 138 junior enlisted units begins in Northwest Falcon Park. In September, construction starts on 206 homes for officers and senior noncommissioned officers in Bay Ridge.

In 2008, construction begins in March for 352 junior enlisted homes, and in December for an additional 135 homes in Bay Ridge for officers and chief master sergeants.

The target date for completion of the project is January 2010.

Housing officials said the project includes a wide range of neighborhood enhancements, including tot-lots, playgrounds, basketball and volleyball courts, picnic shelters, lighted hiking and biking paths, improved street lighting and additional off-street parking. Brick signs and impasse fencing are featured at neighborhood entryways.

All homes have three or four bedrooms and meet or exceed benchmark square footage standards for all floor plans. The units have two-year warranties, low maintenance exteriors, large trash enclosures, garages and photo-cell lighted house numbers.

As far as relocation entitlements are concerned, people who reside on base go to the

Neighborhood enhancements include tot-lots, playgrounds, basketball and volleyball courts, picnic shelters, lighted hiking and biking paths, improved street lighting and additional off-street parking. Brick signs and impasse fencing are featured at neighborhood entryways.

traffic management office after housing completes the proper paperwork before a contract or do-it-yourself move is made. Residents receive partial dislocation allowances. Spouses of deployed members need a power of attorney to make a move.

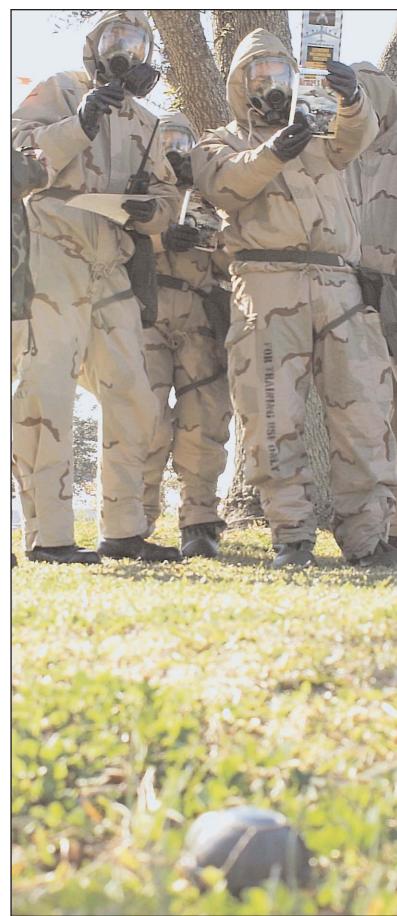
Base housing officials also reviewed the responsibilities of housing residents and covered the community housing situation since Hurricane Katrina slammed the south Mississippi almost 18 months ago.

Off-base housing is still limited and costly, with average monthly rents of \$700-\$995 for apartments and \$800-\$1,200 for three-bedroom houses. The base's rental partnership program sends out updated listings to first sergeants and others on request.

Warrior Day sharpens focus on deployment skills



Photos by Kemberly Groue Colonel Breeland, left, splints and applies a tourniquet to Master Sgt. Mary Sarris' simulated open leg injury during self-aid and buddy care training. Sergeant Sarris is assigned to the 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron.



Class Alonda West, 81st TRW command section, and Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, 81st TRW commander, search the Airman's Manual to identify an unexploded ordnance in the foreground.

By Susan Griggs

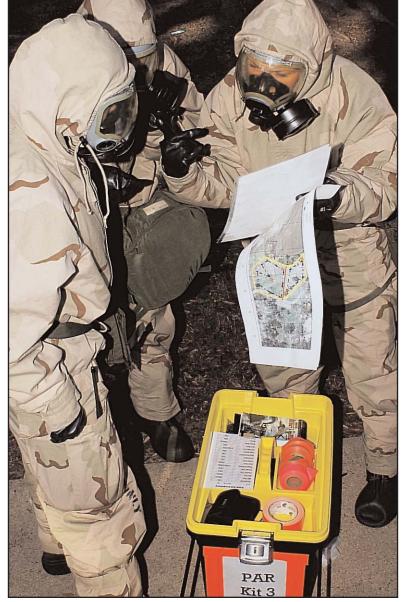
Keesler News staff

The 81st Training Wing staff agencies kicked off a series of Warrior Days Feb. 6 at marina park for about 75 military personnel.

"The intent is to make sure all military personnel are familiar with their real-world mission to be ready to deploy," said Lt. Col. Mack Breeland, inspector general. "It also helps us focus on future deployment exercises and requirements that we expect the Air Education and Training Command IG team to task us on during the deployment portion of our Operational Readiness Inspection in August.

"Warrior Days focus on key wartime skills like donning chemical gear, self-aid and buddy care, unexploded ordnance and postattack reconnaissance teams and weapon familiarization," the colonel explained.

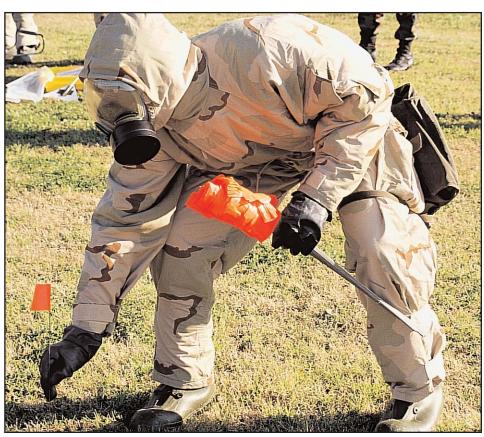
The 81st Mission Support Group plans similar training Feb. 27 and the 81st Training Group is tentatively scheduled for March 6. The 81st MDG is planning to incorporate some Warrior Day scenarios and training into a scheduled training day March 8.



From left, Master Sgt. Lorne Ryland, legal office; Airman 1st From left, 1st Lt. Mishaun Johnson, 81st Comptroller Squadron; Staff Sgt. Courtney Carroll, legal office, and Master Sgt. Nicole Pearson, protocol office, map a route to find and identify unexploded ordnance and chemical contaminants.



Tech. Sgt. Quardrick Brumfield, 81st TRW command staff, uses an optical range finder to identify an unexploded ordnance 25 feet away.



Maj. Larry Evers, 81st Operations Support Flight, uses flags to mark the perimeter around an unexploded



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Chris Pope from Bruce's Electric installs lights in the new military working dog facility.

Canine warriors get new home

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

Keesler's canine warriors and their handlers are looking forward to moving into a new facility later this month.

Construction of the 81st Security Forces Squadron's new military working dog building just north of the shoppette should be completed by Tuesday, according to 2nd Lt. Logan Smith, project manager from the 81st Civil Engineer Squadron.

The cost of the structure is \$621,000.

The new building has 2,960 square feet for the kennel area and 2,380 square feet for administrative space, compared to the 1,409 square feet the current facility provides.

"Now our dogs can go in and out as they please, but still be separated from each other," Tech. Sgt. Erik Castro, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 81st SFS military working dog section, pointed out. "There's more room so they won't have to lie where they urinate.

"Our capacity will increase from eight dogs to 12," he continued. "There's a vet room where examinations can be



Scott Ross from Tri Craft Painting paints the new kennel area.

conducted, emergency medical supplies can be stored and animals can be isolated. We'll also have a laundry room for quick washing of towels and other supplies."

"The new dog kennel is a huge improvement from what the 81st SFS has been stuck in for the past decade," said Capt. Brad Ledford, 81st CES chief of contracts. "We're increasing the square footage by 380 percent, adding two additional dog stalls, a badlyneeded armory and an updated

training area to keep the dogs in top shape.

"The old kennel was completely insufficient by Air Force standards," Captain Ledford continued. "It was also next to the aircraft parking apron and the noise levels were too high for the dogs. In addition, moving the operation gave us the opportunity to remove another obstruction from the airfield — a Defense Department initiative to improve the safety of our air operations.

Black Heritage Month: Something's cooking

Black Heritage Month activities at Keesler:

Cookout — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today, marina park. Cost: \$6, with proceeds going toward college scholarships. For more information, call Byron Bryant, 377-4198, or Staff Sgt. Samuel Parms, 377-2860.

Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. — Col. Lawrence Roberts chapter membership meeting, 11 a.m. Friday, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call or e-mail Tech. Sgt. Kirk Jackson, chapter secretary, 377-4532, 424-7915, ijack@ cableone .net.

Bowling tournament — noon Friday, Gaudé Lanes. Cost: \$10, with proceeds going toward college scholarships. For more information, call Kurt Higgins, 377-5356, or Mr. Bryant, 377-4198.

Luncheon — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 22, Triangle Chapel Annex. Hosted by Col. Richard Pierce, 81st Trianing Wing vice commander. For more informa-

tion, call Capt. Millie Ziebell, 377-7055.

Gospel concert — 6-9 p.m. Feb. 23, Welch Auditorium. Community choirs perform. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Anthony Thomas, 377-8628, or Mary Pleasant, 377-4198.

Food sampling — 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 28, Triangle Chapel Annex. Catered by African-American Heritage Committee and area restaurants. For more information, call Senior Airman Julia Jackson, 377-3009, or Cynthia McCall, 377-9386.

Sickle cell 5-kilometer run/walk — 6:45 a.m. registration and 7:30 a.m. start, April 12, Blake Fitness Center. Cost: \$10 for preregistration and \$15 day of event, with proceeds benefiting sickle cell anemia research and treatment. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Maranatty Martin, 377-0552, or Minnie Gray, 377-7001.

Thumbs up, Airmen!



Air Force photo

Chief Master Sgt. Scott Owens, left, and Brig. Gen. Paul Capasso, right, flank Airmen 1st Class Katadrian Wright, Johann Bermudez, Jennifer Parker and Deeana Downs after the foursome was recognized for volunteer participation in the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce Gulf Coast Junior Leadership visit to Keesler on Feb. 5. Chief Owens is 81st Training Wing command chief, General Capasso is 81st TRW commander and the Airmen are assigned to the 81st Medical Group.

Keesler Notes

New phone numbers

Five Keesler Medical Center functions have new telephone numbers:

Immunization clinic — 376-3552 and 3553.

Medical readiness — 376-5610.

Dental clinic appointment line — 376-0511.

Bioenvironmental engineering — 376-0590, effective Friday.

Physical and occupational therapy — 376-0446.

Excess property sale

A nonappropriated fund excess property sale ends today in the Keesler Club on Larcher Boulevard.

For more information, call 377-0002.

ADC office closure

The Area Defense Counsel office is closed Monday through Feb. 23 for a tempo-

rary duty conference.

For emergencies, call command post, 377-4330.

Heart Link

Heart Link, a free orientation program for Air Force spouses with five years or less affiliation with the Air Force is 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 22 at the Triangle Chapel Annex.

Limited child care is available by calling Jackie Pope, 377-5346.

To register, call the airman and family readiness center, 377-2179.

Claims closure

The claims office is closed March 16 for training.

Entrance closed

Keesler Medical Center's A-Tower entrance is closed until late March for renovation.

Child Pride Day

Child Pride Day is 10 a.m.

to 2 p.m. April 14 in marina park.

Data disposal

For appointments to shred documents containing personal data, call the 81st Communications Squadron's records management office, 377-2571.

Blood drives

To schedule mobile blood drives, call 377-9324.

Care for sick kids

The family child care program needs a caregiver for children in the noncontagious stages of a communicable illness or who have mild respiratory illnesses.

For more information, call 377-3189.

DAPS services

For information on document automation and production services, call the DAPS office, 377-4057, or the DAPS

customer account manager, 1-850-452-3025, extension 3118, or DSN 922-3024, extension 3118, or visit http://www.daps.dla.mil.

Fingerprinting process

The 81st Security Forces Squadron no longer accepts walk-ins for fingerprints.

For appointments, call 377-4660 or 5404.

Honor guard

The Keesler Honor Guard has openings for officers and senior noncommissioned officers to serve on the Brass Team.

Brass Team members supplement the rotational honor guard and perform details in Mississippi and Louisiana.

For more information, call 377-1986 or visit https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil/honor/index.htm.

Tax office

The tax office is open 8

a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. working Fridays in Room 234, old Cody Hall.

To ensure preparers are available to assist with your paperwork, call 377-4454.

Food handler training

Food handler training is required for unit fundraisers involving food, according to base public health officials.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Ronald Miller or Airman 1st Class Daniel Sims, 376-3161 or 3155.

Spouse program

The Career Focus Program at the airman and family readiness center assists spouses seeking employment on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

For more information and appointments, call Ron Bublik, 377-8592, or e-mail ronald. bublik@keesler.af.mil.

SPORTS AND RECREATION

Slugfest III



Photo by Kemberly Groue

This scene from last year is repeated at 7 p.m. Friday in Hangar 4. Eight fights are scheduled in each of three weight classes. General admission, \$15; reserved table for 10, \$20 per person; reserved ringside table for 10, \$25 per person. Cash prize of \$1,000 in each division. For more information, call 669-8700 or 377-7858.

Exercise programs Cooling down after hard workout as important as warming up before

Health promotions

Exercise programs are intended to provide health benefits without injuries.

To help prevent injuries during exercise programs:

Start slow — begin an exercise program doing things which are easy for you. Build up slowly.

Warm up — your muscles need this, even for sports like golf which don't require great exertion. Walking and swinging your arms,

followed by slow, easy stretches before you exercise, gets you ready.

Don't overdo it — If muscles or joints start to hurt, ease up.

Cool down — This is as important after hard exercise as warming up is before any exercise. Slow down for about five minutes. For example, walk for five minutes after running.

For more information on exercise programs, call health promotions, 377-5305.

Safety is as simple as ABC

- Always Be Careful.

Scores and More

Basketball

Women's varsity schedule

Feb. 23-25 — Southeastern Military Athletic Conference tournament at Ft. Benning, Ga.

For more information, call Richard Vincent, head coach, 343-9951, or Teddy Johnson, assistant coach, 376-

Bowling

Winter leagues — sign up for 6:30 p.m. Monday competitive "Bud" league; 6 p.m. Tuesdays, intramural; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday and/or Friday, adult family mixed; 9 a.m. Thursdays, women and seniors; 11 a.m. Saturdays, youth.

Tuesdays — Gulfport Seabee Base personnel bowl for half price.

Thursdays — teenagers bowl for \$5.

Saturdays — bowling birthday parties, \$7 per child includes two hours bowling, shoes and food package. Birthday child bowls free. Reservations required.

Youth special — ages 17 and younger bowl for \$1 game. **Bowl-a-rama** — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays, two hours for \$9.95 including shoes (\$16 value); 4 p.m. to closing Monday-Saturday, two hours for \$10.95 including shoes (\$17.25 value).

Birthday parties — Saturdays. For more information and reservations, call 377-2817.

Nonprior service students open bowling special show UBU club card to bowl for \$1.50 per game until 4 p.m. Saturdays, \$2 game Monday-Saturday after \$4. Shoe rental, \$1. Not applicable with other discounts or specials.

Fitness centers

Aerobics — openings for certified instructors. For more information, call 377-8380.

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. non-working Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. The basketball court is closed for repairs and renovation.

Dragon Fitness Center — open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Basketball court is open. Parent-child fitness room open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondaysworking Fridays. Parental supervision required.

For more information, call 377-2907.

Triangle Fitness Center — open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays. Smoothie bar open. For massage therapist appointments, call 263-5515.

For more information, call 377-3056.

Golf

Bay Breeze — course closed until October. Seabee Base's Pine Bayou Course in Gulfport is available. For more information, call 871-2494. These Mississippi Gulf Coast courses offer military discounts: St. Andrews, Gulf Hills, Bay Vista and Great Southern Club.

Bay Breeze driving range — driving range open 7 a.m. to dusk daily. Bucket of 30 balls costs \$2.

Golf lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes. For an appointment, call 377-3832 or 348-7589.

Outdoor recreation

Valentine's special — 10 percent discount on No. 1 camping package throughout February. Includes fourperson tent, four sleeping bags, lantern, stove, 48-quart ice chest and camper's bow saw.

February fishing tournament — weigh in the largest crappie for the month and win \$100 savings bond.

Back Bay fishing trips — Saturday; \$15 per person, maximum eight people. Call for reservations.

Children's wildlife poster contest — win \$100 or \$50 savings bond. For more information, call 377-3160.

Pontoon boat training — required before rental.

For more information, call 377-3160.

Marina park pavilions — to reserve, call 377-3160.

Soccer

Base team — coaches and players interested in forming a Keesler team for tournament at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, call Laurence Wilson, 377-2444.

Sports council

Meeting — April 18. Time and location to be announced.

Tennis

Women's clinics and league - beginner and intermediate (2.5-3.0) clinics, 9 a.m. Mondays, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Jefferson Davis campus, Debuys Road, Gulfport. League play begins this month.

For more information, call Shannon Howard, 239-5827.

Youth center

Taekwondo — 5 p.m. ages 3-5 and 6 p.m. ages 6 and older, Mondays and Wednesdays; \$35 per month members: \$40 non-members.

For more information, call 377-4116.

DIGEST

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Mitchell Arbe, Jonathan Barnes, Joseph Brezinski, Chaz Buchotz, Sean Byrd-Pagan, Christopher Carmody, Michael Carnley, Christopher Christensen, Craig Clouatre, Stephen Collins, Christopher Derby, David Hendrickson, Johan Holtz, Aaron Ivcovassi, Mychal Mankin, Ernest Moore, Ashby Millinconant, Jennifer Nonog, Daniel Peter, Mark Remien, Ruel Rutledge, Joshua Sacasa, Derek Sampson, Jacquels Scott, Jason Speaker, Alexander Tobin, Adam Urban, Andru VanDiver, Elijah VanGuilder and Joshua Wagner; Airmen Jonathan Gay, Terry Hansby, Ricardo Howard, Thomas Hurd, Nathaniel Locke, Zachary Milne, John Northington, Cody Pratt, Ralph Shurte, Apollo Timbers, Richard VanHyning, Ian Voelkel and Philip Ziegler; Airmen 1st Class Eric Atkinson, Clint Brower, James Bullock, Stephen Caruso, Cody Chiasson, Phillip Dangelo, Alyssa Galt, Matthew Habart, Matthew Harden, Chad Heer, Jair Guevara, Daniel Hoffman, Robert Lahmann, Kenneth Lemke, Raymond Lightell, Aaron Pederson, Joshua Rodriguez, Benjamin Salazar, Jade Songne, Zakery Tawes and Garrett Wiseman; Senior Airmen Roman Garanzuay and Evait Hayes; Staff Sgts. Joshua Baxley, Christopher Blount, Micah Campbell, Ronald Holmbeck, Caleb Sheldon and Joel Slaughter; Tech. Sgt. Keith Rhodes.

Metrology — Airmen Basic Garrett Lotzgesell, Nathan Fenton, Randy Agee and Alfredo Camacho; Airman Nathaniel Maidel; Airman 1st Class Gregory Thomas, Christopher Boatright and Dorian Hadley.

334th TRS

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Mattew Burek, Kenneth Campbell, Darren Campo, Jason Cruz, Kevin Garlock, Jonathon Giam, Shawn Huckins, John Hulsey, Joshua Jobe, Russell Johnson, Timothy Kenney, Brandon Lee, James Lewis, Isaac Linkletter, David Martinez, Sean McGinnis, Mazie Paulino, Joseph Quinones, Seth Skrypek, John Stacy and Russell Wilcox; Airmen Jeffery Giles, David Mathews, Jeffrey Matthews and Christopher Mickelson; Airmen 1st Class Stephen Boniol, Bryan Charles, Benjamin Cole, Christopher Dodd, Bradley Eakin, Kevin Green, Kevin Gronnvoll, Trymaine Kelley, Scott Leroy and Russell McCorkle; Staff Sgt. Carlos Henry; 2nd Lt. Alexious Kachenje.

Command post apprentice course — Airmen Basic Brandon Gannon, Justin Hooks and Keith Small; Airman 1st Class Nicole Yakovich; Senior Airman Richard Sanderson; Staff Sgts. Melanie Landgraff and Warren Engell; Tech. Sgts. Jeffrey Hamilton, Shannon Harrison, James Rose and Frank Sills; Master Sgts. Heesoon Bartlett, Anthony Bates and Laura Margwarth.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2520.

Roman Catholic

Saturday Mass	
Triangle Chapel	
Sunday Mass	
Triangle Chapel	
Daily Mass	
Triangle Chapel11:15 a.m.	

Protestant

Sunday	worship	
	Chapel traditional service8:30	
Triangle	Chapel contemporary worship service10:30	a.m.
Triangle	Chapel gospel serviceN	loon

Islamic

Building 2003 — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon Friday. For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-616-881-1994.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Kathleen Abling, Wilfredo Mateo, Jennifer Meshaw, David Rachwalik, Aymee Rodriguez, Jason Slagle and William Walker; Airmen Karrie Conway and Richard Haas; Airmen 1st Class Teresa Davis, Illithia Jefferson, Cassiopeia McMillan, Keisha Mitchell and Daniel Thurston; Senior Airmen Shane Burpee, Jason Emrick, James Hudnall and John Moyer; Staff Sgts. Shara Evans, Sherry Holmes, Zaka McCoy, Tiffany Tatum, Jeffrey Tengonciang and Heather Vongrey; Tech. Sgt. Michael Johnson.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Christopher McCullough and Ryan Nevius; Navy Airmen Recruits Nolan Clark and Venetia Whatley; Airman Stephen McNeese; Airmen 1st Class Craig Madara, Daniel McGonigle, Nathan Norvell, Raymond Rugenstein, Matthew Tubbs and Keith Wilson; Marine Lance Cpl. Justin Lecklider; Tech. Sgts. Steven Bass, James Durio and Kenneth Eberman.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems training flight — Airmen Basic Christopher Garlington and Ralph Shinn; Airman 1st Class Joseph Ciaravino; Senior Airman Eric Markum; Senior Master Sgt. Christopher Castle.

Communications and information management flight — Airmen Basic John Godwin, Mark Rivera and Alicia Wagner; Airman 1st Class Benjamin Harper; Senior Airman Renette Coleman; Staff Sgts. Brent Bushey, Amy Hallstrom, Henry Gonzales, Troy Morgan, Shannon Revit, Raymond Roberts, Lakesha Thomas and Maurlen Whitaker; Tech. Sgts. Greg Rotert, Darla Roote and Marc Shepperson; Matthew Heslop.

338th TRS

Ground radio apprentice course — Airmen Rodney Baumer and Michael Gumataotao; Airmen 1st Class Joseph Scioneaux and Stephen Siegel; Senior Airman Gregory Downs.

Radar systems flight — Airman Charles Boyd; Airmen 1st Class James Lewis, Wesley Phillips and Tyler Stacey; Senior Airman Osvaldo Figueroa-Lopez; Staff Sgts. Jeffery Barrett, James Anderson and William Murray; Master Sgt. Hong Jeong.

HOLIDAY HOURS

Presidents Day

Editor's note: Hours reflect changes in observance of the Presidents Day federal holiday, Monday. Any exchange facilities not listed are closed.

Keesler News — closed.
Commissary — 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Mini-mall — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Furniture store — closed. Class Six — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Service station** — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Military clothing sales — closed. Katrina Hot Dogs and Pizza — closed. Seattle's Best Coffee — closed. Mobile units — closed. **Subway** — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **General Nutrition Center** — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Beauty shop — closed. Barber shop — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Laundry and dry cleaning — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **CZee CyberZone** — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Ease Apparel — closed Sunday, Monday, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. **Force One Rental** — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enterprise Car Rental — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Inns of Keesler** — open 24 hours. Arts and crafts center — closed.

Auto hobby shop — closed.

Bay Breeze Golf Course — closed; driving range open 7 a.m. o dusk.

Child development center — closed. **Family child care office** — closed.

Live Oak Dining Facility — 7:30-9 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Magnolia Dining Facility — 7:30-9 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Azalea Dining Facility — closed.

Blake Fitness Center — 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. **Dragon and Triangle fitness centers** — closed.

Please see **Digest**, Page 22

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour		Bus stop
:00	:30	332nd TRS, Building 6957
:01	:31	338th TRS, Building 6965
:02	:32	Welch Auditorium
:04	:34	AAFES Furniture Store
:06	:36	Jones/Bryan/Hewes Hall at gazebo
:08	:38	Thomson Hall
:09	:39	New Cody Hall
:11	:41	Supply, civil engineering
:12	:42	Rental store
:13	:43	Shaw House
:14	:44	Old base exchange
:15	:45	McBride Library
:16	:46	Credit union, Blake Fitness Center
:17	:47	Medical center, Tyer House
:18	:48	Sablich Center
:19	:49	Dental clinic
:20	:50	Allee and Wolfe Halls
:21	:51	Base operations
:22	:52	Hangar 4

Technical training route 5:10-5:37 a.m. weekdays

Minutes after hour	Bus stop
:10	Building 5025
:12	Building 5022
:14	Shaw House
:16	Muse Manor
:18	Tyer House
:20	TLQ east side 2000 block
:21	TLQ east side of Locker House
:25	332nd TRS
:28	Welch Auditorium
:33	Thomson/Dolan/Cody Halls
:34	McClellan Hall
:36	Allee/Wolfe Halls
.37	Stennis Hall/Weather

Prior-service students lodged off-base

Call 377-2432 for transportation needs. Traffic in the local area impacts base taxi times.

Editor's note: Duty passengers have priority over "space available" riders. Schedule may be impacted by increased official operations or severe weather. Those who are physically challenged, have excess baggage, medical appointments at off-base hospitals or clinics or unable to ride the base shuttle, call 377-2432 for the base taxi. For more information, call 377-2430. Until further notice, weekend shuttle service isn't available. Taxi service is available on an "as needed" basis.

COAST AREA TRANSIT

Keesler Express — runs between the Triangle and Edgewater Mall. Bus service begins from the base, 5:50-8:30 p.m. work days, 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. down Fridays and Saturdays, and 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sundays.

The route is limited to specific pickup and dropoff points:

Minutes after hour, bus stop

- :30 Hercules Street bus stop
- :32 Welch Auditorium
- :45 Pass Road Wal-Mart
- :54 Arrive Edgewater Mall
- :00 Depart Edgewater Mall
- :09 Pass Road Wal-Mart
- :22 Welch Auditorium
- :24 Hercules Street bus stop

The regular adult fare is \$1. An unlimited one-day pass is \$5 and one-month pass is \$45.

For more information, call 896-8080.

Digest,

from Page 21

Gaudé Lanes — closed.

11th Frame Cafe — closed.

Information, ticket and trip office — closed.

Katrina Kantina — closed.

Mini-mart — open 24 hours.

McBride Library — closed.

Outdoor recreation — 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vandenberg Community Center — noon to 6 p.m.

Halftime Café — closed.

Veterinary clinic — closed.

Youth center — closed.

Car wash — open 24 hours.

Fam camp — open 24 hours.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 07-2 — graduation Friday. Class 07-3 — Feb. 27-April 5. Class 07-4 — April 17-May 24. Class 07-5 — May 30-July 10. Class 07-6 — Aug. 2-Sept. 11. Class 07-7 — Sept. 18-Oct. 26.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 07-2 — graduation Friday. Class 07-3 — Feb. 27-April 5. Class 07-4 — April 17-May 24. Class 07-5 — May 30-July 10. Class 07-6 — Aug. 2-Sept. 11. Class 07-7 — Sept. 18-Oct. 26.

Arts and crafts center

Beginners framing — one class, four sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays. \$60.

Free ceramic knowledge workshop — 5 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call 377-2821.

Beginning intarsia woodworking — 10 a.m. Saturday. \$15. Intarsia involves inlaying pieces of wood in a decorative pattern.

Advanced intarsia — 10 a.m. Feb. 24. \$20. A new project each month.

Parent 'n' me kids crafting — 11 a.m. Saturday. \$10. Quick, easy king cake. Ages 7 and under need parent involvement.

Scrapbooking — 1:30 p.m. Feb. 23. \$10 including supplies.

Beginning pottery — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$40 including five pounds of clay and firing for three pieces. Call for date.

Advanced metting \$25 Regioner framing class is a pre-

Advanced matting — \$25. Beginner framing class is a prerequisite. Call for time and date.

New classes coming soon — photography, cooking and beading.

Auto hobby shop

Beginner auto care classes for groups — oil changes, tuneups or brakes. For more information, call 377-3872.

Chapel

All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex through May. For more information, call 377-2520.

Protestant Sunday school — 9:15-10:15 a.m. for infants, children, teens and adults.

Team Kids Sunday — 4-5:30p.m. grades K-6.

Men's luncheon Bible study — Tuesdays noon-1 p.m.

Women's Wednesday morning Bible class — 9-11 a.m.

Wednesday night Bible study — 6-7:30 p.m.

Women's breakfast Bible study — 10 a.m. to noon first Saturday of the month.

Men's breakfast Bible study — 9 a.m. to noon second Saturday of the month.

Friday night youth teens — call 377-2520.

Family advocacy

Anger management — 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays. For more information, call 377-6216, 376-3458 or e-mail susan.pyles@keesler.af.mil.

1-2-3 Magic— parenting class; to register call 376-3457.

McBride Library

Research orientations — 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Story time — 10 a.m. Wednesday, ages 2-4.

African-American heritage display — throughout the month.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Pool tournaments — 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays. **Game night and dance revolution** — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. **Karaoke** — 6 p.m. Thursdays.

Dances — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before nonworking Fridays, and Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Halftime Cafe — closed for renovations.

Katrina Kantina

All ranks invited — open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Snacks, beverages and music.

It's your choice — select between two club cards.

Taco Tuesdays — members two tacos for \$1, nonmembers \$2. **Catering** — experts can assist with event planning.

Wings and things — 5 p.m. Wednesday. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and \$1 domestic draft beer. Free for Keesler club members, nonmembers pay \$3 at the door.

Mardi Gras specials — 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Thirsty Thursday — 5 p.m. Feb. 22. Fried catfish.

Youth center

TRAIL Keystone Club meeting — 10 a.m. Saturday, ages 13-17.

FitFactor aerobics — 6 p.m. today, ages 9 and older. Free for members, 50 cents for guests.

Torch Club — 4:30 p.m. Feb. 26, ages 9-12. Leadership programs, activities, community service, fun and friends.

Tiny tots program — preschool equipment and training materials available for sign-out. For more information, call 377-

Power hour — 4:30-5:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, ages 9-

4-H Club — 5 p.m. Feb. 26, ages 13-17. Outdoor adventures and community service.

Smart girls and passport to manhood programs — ages 8 and older. For more information, dates and times, call 377-3349.

Wipeout Wednesdays — 5-6 p.m. Feb. 27, ages 9 and older. Compete to overthrow current champions in a variety of indoor games

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Busch Gardens, Sea World, Universal Studios and Disney World in Florida. For price list, log on to https://www.mil.keesler.af.mil/81svs/WhattoDo/ITT/index.htm.

Information on local and out-of-state attractions — free brochures for Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

TRANSITIONS

W orkshops, briefings

Veterans benefits briefing — 1-4 p.m. today, March 15, April 5, May 10, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 13, Oct. 18, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13 in Room 151, old Cody Hall. To pre-register or for more information, call 377-2179.

Mandatory pre-separation briefings — Tuesdays at 8:30-9:30 a.m. for those separating with honorable discharges and 9:30-10:30 a.m. for retirees. Afternoon sessions are Thursdays at 1-2 p.m. for those separating with honorable discharges (not general under honorable conditions) and 2:30-3:30 p.m. for retirees. Briefings are in Room 122, old Cody Hall. Bring one copy of separation or retirement orders. This appoinment is required by law, and must be accomplished 90 calendar days before the separation/retirement date. For short-notice separations or retirements, the briefing should be done as soon as possible.

Transition assistance program workshop — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 12-14, April 2-4, May 7-9, June 18-20, July 16-18, Aug. 13-15, Sept. 10-12, Oct. 15-17, Nov. 5-7 and Dec. 10-12 in Room 151, old Cody Hall. Dress is business casual; no jeans, T-shirts or uniforms. To pre-register or for more information, call 377-2179.

Retirement briefings — intended for those with less than a

Please see **Digest**, Page 23

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — herbed baked chicken, beef and noodles, fried catfish, blackeyed peas with rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, peas, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, cheeseburger soup, frontier chicken chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Dinner — roast pork loin, jaegerschnitzel veal, chicken cordon bleu, potato halves, orange rice, gravy, carrots, pinto beans, corn combo, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken and wild rice soup, chili, cannonball sandwich and Italian pepper beef sandwich.

Friday

Lunch — Mexican baked chicken, country-style steak, stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn on the cob, beans, Spanish beans, peas and carrots, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken with wild rice soup, onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Dinner — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, rice, gravy, broccoli, cauliflower, Italian baked beans, corn O'Brien, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken with wild rice soup, onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwiches and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked chicken, beef yakisoba, canned ham, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, broccoli, peas, carrots, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, raisin sauce, clam chowder, tomato florentine soup and buffalo wings.

Dinner — fish almondine, stir-fry chicken with broccoli, pork chops, rissole potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, calico corn, club spinach, fried okra, fruit medley, kidney bean salad, clam showder, tomato florentine soup, chicken frontier chili and buffalo wings.

Sunday

Lunch — baked fish, sauerbraten, chicken breast parmesan, au gratin potatoes, egg noodles, gravy, cauliflower combo, mixed vegetabless, fried cabbage, tomato salad, German coleslaw, cheesy chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — ginger barbecue chicken, fried shrimp, beef manicotti, potato wedges, mashed potatoes, gravy, blackeyed peas, collard greens, corn O'Brien, tomato salad, German coleslaw, cheesy chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

President's Day

Lunch — steamship round, fried catfish, dijon chicken, cornbread, shrimp cocktail, French onion soup, peas and carrots, O'Brien potatoes, corn combo, broccoli, rice, gravy, fruit salad, spinach salad, candy, dinner rolls, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — turkey, ribeye steak, tempura fish, mashed potatoes, combread dressing, gravy, succotash, tempura vegetables, green beans, garden cottage cheese salad, macaroni salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, cannonball sandwich and chicken nuggets.

Tuesday

Lunch — lemon garlic fish, pork schnitzel steak, beef and yakisoba, ginger rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, pinto beans, spinach, squash, spinach salad, waldorf salad, frontier chicken chili, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Dinner — roast pork loin, barbecue beef cubes, chicken fajitas, O'Brien potatoes, rice, gravy cauliflower, corn on the cob, lima beans, waldorf salad, frontier chicken chili, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, steak and cheese subs and tacos.

Wednesday

Lunch — lasagna, spaghetti with meat sauce, chicken cacciatore, noodles, baked potatoes, baked beans, green beans, simmered squash, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, pasta fagioli soup, chicken tortilla soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and Monte Cristo sandwich.

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, Swiss steak, fried chicken, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, fried cauliflower, asparagus, simmered cabbage, coleslaw, country style tomatoes, chicken noodle soup, potato soup, chili with beans, cheese fishwich and cheese pizza..

At retreat:

All personnel in uniform who aren't in formation should stand and face the flag, or in the direction of the music if the flag is not visible, and salute. Hold the salute until the last note of the music is played.

All military personnel in civilian clothes should face the flag or the sound of the music if the flag is not visible, and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart.

All vehicles in motion should come to a stop at the first note of the music, and the occupants should sit quietly until the music ends.

Digest,

from Page 22

year until retirement, 8-11 a.m. March 8, April 12, May 3, June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, Nov. 1 and Dec. 6, in Room 151, old Cody Hall. To pre-register or for more information, call 377-2179.

Palace Chase briefings — 10 a.m. first two working Fridays of the month, Room 203, Garrard Hall. For more information, call Master Sgt. Joseph Walker, 377-2116.

Employment opportunities

Career focus program for spouses — information on area employment opportunities, job Web sites, human resources contacts, temporary jobs, on-base listings and free training programs. Computer lab available for resume preparation or job search; located in Room 121, old Cody Hall. For an appointment, call Ron Bublik at the airman and family readiness flight, 377-8592, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Executive transition assistance program https://www-r.aetc.af. mil/dp/etap. Online registration dates are March 5-15 for May 8-11 program at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas; June 5-14 for Aug. 21-24 at Little Rock AFB, Ark.; and Sept. 12-21 for Nov. 27-30, 2007

program at Randolph.

Junior ROTC — immediate employment opportunities for retired or retiring Air Force officers and noncommissioned officers. Those who retired within the past 10 years or are six months from retirement may qualify to be an instructor. To apply or for more information, go to http://www. afoats.af.mil and select "AFJROTC" or call Jo Alice Talley, toll free 1-866-235-7682, extension 7742; DSN 493-7742, or commercial (334) 953-7742.

Opportunities for medics — for members separating from active duty interested in the Air Force Reserve or the Palace Chase programs, call Master Sgt. Joseph Walker, 377-7116, for an appointment. His office is in Room 229, old Cody Hall.

Opportunities for medics — the Air Force Reserve needs flight surgeons, doctors, dentists and nurses. Some opportunities are available with the 403rd Aeromedical Staging Squadron at Keesler. Eligible members enjoy many military benefits of being in the military and earn retirement credit, while serving two days per month of inactive training and two weeks of active-duty training each year. Some members may be eligible for signing bonus or loan repayment. For more information call Tech. Sgt. George Adams, health professions recruiter, 377-7655, or e-mail george.adams@keesler.af.mil.

Web sites

Defense Manpower Data Center — http://www .dmdc.osd.mil/dors or http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray — http://www.

Air Force Federal Employment Resume and **Information** — http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb.

Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans — http:// www.dol.gov/dol/vets.

Department of Veterans Affairs — http://www. vba.va.gov/efif/index.htm; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair.

New military spouse career center — http://www. military.com/spouse. Extensive job board including public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

Military Connection — online resources database for military family members seeking civilian employment at http://www.military connection.com

America's Job Bank — http://www.ajb.dni.us.

Computer use

Government computers — commanders may authorize their use for preparation of personal resumes by people separating or retiring from the service on an "as available" basis as long as use doesn't adversely affect the mission

Transition employment opportunities public folder - go to e-mail "public folders" and click on "transition employment opportunities" for job opportunities for active-duty and family members. For more information, call 377-8592 or 8593.

MEETINGS

Editor's note: To list time, place and contact for organization meetings, call 377-3837 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

Air Force Sergeants Association — 7 a.m. third Tuesday of the month, Live Oak Dining Hall. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Scott Sippel, 377-2337, or visithe group's Web site, http://www.afsa652.org.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Thursday of the month, youth center, J Street. For more information, call Desarae Chereskin, 341-0988.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — 3:15 p.m. first Tuesday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center second floor conference room. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Brian Yelton, 377-0167, or e-mail keesler.aadd officers@keesler.af.mil.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Don Seaton, 377-5958, or Fred Blache, 377-1048, or visit http://www.toastmasters.org.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Hangar 3, Room 215. Check out the club repeater on 146.79 negative offset. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Justin Meyer, 377-4149 or 324-5806, or e-mail justin.meyer2@ keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association meets 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Michelle Durkin, 872-9393, or e-mail chelle1rn@yahoo.com.

Keesler Spouses Club — meets the second Tuesday of the month. For time and location, call Tammie Searfass, 273-4324, or visit http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com.

Native American Heritage Committee — for more information, call R.I. Whiteside, 863-0479, or Capt. Elizabeth Taillon, 377-6242.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month, Room 121, Thompson Hall. For more information, call Staff Sgts. Patrick McKimmie, 377-1513, or James

Tuskegee Airmen Inc., Col. Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter — 11 a.m. third Wednesday of the month, Gaude Lanes. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Kirk Jackson, 377-4532 or 424-7915, or e-mail kijack@cableone.net.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children for regular features, and \$2.50 for adults and \$1 for children for matinees. For a recording about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 6:30 p.m., Alpha Dog (R, 118 minutes).

Saturday — 2 p.m., Happily Never After (PG, 87 minutes); 6:30 p.m., Night at the Museum (PG, 109 minutes).

Sunday — 2 p.m., Primeval (R, 94 minutes).

Mardi Gras parades

Saturday — Krewe of Diamondhead, noon, 255-6922. Jackson County Carnival Association, Pascagoula, 1 p.m., 497-3269. Krewe of Gemini day parade, Gulfport, 2 p.m., 831-0046 or 297-0377, color guard, 334th TRS 50-state flag team and drum and bugle corps.

Sunday — St. Paul Carnival Association, Pass Christian, noon, 452-4643. North Bay Area Mardi Gras Associ ation, D'Iberville, 1:30 p.m., 365-3195 or 424-3637, 336th TRS 50-state flag team.

Tuesday — Gulf Coast Carnival Association, 1 p.m., Biloxi; 432-8806, color guard. Krewe of Gemini night parade, 6 p.m., Gulfport, 831-0046 or 297-0377, color guard, 334th TRS 50-state flag team and drum and bugle corps.